



Quick Facts: Rapid HIV Test Training



Challenges

- Of the community-based organizations that receive grants from CDC, 60% plan to offer rapid HIV testing but have little or no training.
- Rapid HIV test training by manufacturers does not meet CDC's training requirements.
- Standards for training differ among states.
- CDC had to work quickly to develop and deliver the initial phase of training sessions.
- Need for updated training is constant because rapid testing technology continues to change.
- HIV prevention program managers need specific training and technical assistance in how to implement rapid HIV testing.
- Demand for CDC training has exceeded the number of available slots.
- To satisfy the demand, there is a need to package the curriculum so that it can be distributed.
- To extend the reach of the training, there is a need for a train-the-trainer program to help HIV prevention program managers with training and technical assistance in implementing rapid HIV testing programs.

Accomplishments

- Conducted 40 training sessions on rapid HIV testing during 2003 and 2004. More than 850 health care workers enrolled in the 3-day sessions.
- Collaborated with CDC Public Health Practice Program Office to develop and deliver rapid HIV test training.
- Trained AHP demonstration project staff to conduct rapid HIV testing.

- Collaborated with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to support its large-scale rapid test training project. Support included
 - sharing the rapid HIV test curriculum with SAMHSA
 - training 22 counseling trainers in specific units of the curriculum
 - advising SAMHSA on the procurement of rapid test kits, site selection, logistics, implementation, monitoring and evaluation
 - providing rapid HIV test training and technical assistance to SAMHSA demonstration project grantees in methadone treatment centers.